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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE



A REPORT BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT
SECURITY PREPARED IN COORDINATION WITH THE UNITED STATES
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

September

Wesley S. Noyes, Jr., Editor
Supervisor, Economic Analysis and Reports

84-9

SUMMARY: Total unemployment in New Hampshire decreased by 1,280 from mid-August to mid-September. The rate dropped from 3.0 to 2.8 percent. The 3.0 August rate was the lowest in the country and it's quite likely that September's 2.8 rate will also be the nation's lowest. Interestingly, August and September of 1983 also saw New Hampshire recording the nation's lowest unemployment rates of 4.2 and 3.4 percent respectively. The September labor force stood at 528,840 with 14,880 unemployed workers. The unemployment rate increased in only two of the eleven labor market areas while the remaining nine areas either decreased or were unchanged from August. Unemployment rates ranged from a low of 1.7 percent in the Claremont Labor Market Area to a high of 4.7 percent in the Portsmouth Labor Market Area.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment decreased by 3,750 from August as manufacturing was down 100 workers and nonmanufacturing 3,650. Seasonal layoffs occurred in trade and services but some establishments remained open through mid-September as excellent weather conditions encouraged continued tourist activities. Also, the reopening of schools and colleges resulted in the hiring of bus drivers, teacher aides, cafeteria workers and janitors. Construction continued to enjoy a brisk season and increased by 100 workers from August, but remained 4,000 below the year ago level due to the substantially reduced work force at the Seabrook construction site. Overall, nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased 15,250 from a year ago as manufacturing is up 7,800 and nonmanufacturing 7,450. Electrical products recorded the largest manufacturing gain with an increase of 4,150 while services led nonmanufacturing with 5,150.

Manchester Economic Conditions: Total unemployment remained relatively unchanged from August as the 2.7 rate recorded then was repeated in September. A year ago the rate was 3.5 percent. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment decreased by 150 from August, but is up 3,800 from the year ago level. Manufacturing increased 950 from last year while nonmanufacturing is up 2,850. The largest industrial gain from a year ago occurred in trade with an increase of 1,200 workers.

Nashua Economic Conditions: Total unemployment remained unchanged from August as the jobless count of 1,900 represented a 2.0 percent unemployment rate. The August unemployment rate, also only 2.0 percent, was the lowest rate for any metropolitan labor market area in the country and it is expected that September's 2.0 rate will also be the lowest nationally. A year ago the rate was 2.9 percent. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased 400 from August and is up 4,050 from a year ago. Manufacturing increased 2,500 and nonmanufacturing 1,550. The largest industrial gain from a year ago occurred in machinery and electrical products with an increase of 2,800 workers.

New Hampshire Labor Force, Total Employment and Unemployment and Nonagricultural
Wage and Salary Employment as of the Middle of the Month

Industry	State					Manchester Labor Market Area					Nashua Labor Market Area				
	Number of Workers			Numerical Change		Number of Workers			Numerical Change		Number of Workers			Numerical Change	
	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	From Previous		Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	From Previous		Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	From Previous	
				Month	Year				Month	Year				Month	Year
1. Civilian labor force*	528,840	536,440	512,610	-7,600	16,230	91,830	92,270	87,300	-440	4,530	94,100	94,120	88,890	-20	5,210
2. Unemployment	14,880	16,160	17,590	-1,280	-2,710	2,480	2,470	3,040	10	-560	1,900	1,900	2,620	0	-720
Percent of labor force	2.8	3.0	3.4	xxx	xxx	2.7	2.7	3.5	xxx	xxx	2.0	2.0	2.9	xxx	xxx
3. Employment total	513,960	520,280	495,020	-6,320	18,940	89,350	89,800	84,260	-450	5,090	92,200	92,220	86,270	-20	5,930
4. Persons involved in labor disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nonagri. wage & salary**	440,550	444,300	425,300	-3,750	15,250	83,400	83,550	79,600	-150	3,800	77,550	77,150	73,500	400	4,050
Manufacturing	123,600	123,700	115,800	-100	7,800	17,600	17,550	16,650	50	950	36,700	36,850	34,200	-150	2,500
Durable goods	81,700	81,800	73,750	-100	7,950	10,400	10,400	9,300	0	1,100	30,200	30,350	27,450	-150	2,750
Lumber & wood prods.	5,250	5,250	5,000	0	250										
Furniture & fixtures	1,500	1,450	1,400	50	100										
Stone & clay prods.	2,900	2,900	2,550	0	350										
Primary metal prods.	4,000	4,000	3,850	0	150										
Fabricated metal prods.	7,250	7,200	7,050	50	200										
Machinery (exc. elec.)	23,800	23,850	21,650	-50	2,150										
Electrical prods.	26,500	26,750	22,350	-250	4,150	6,650	6,600	6,000	50	650	23,050	23,350	20,250	-300	2,800
Miscellaneous prods.	2,000	1,950	1,850	50	150										
Other durables	8,500	8,450	8,050	50	450	3,750	3,800	3,300	-50	450	7,150	7,000	7,200	150	-50
Nondurable goods	41,900	41,900	42,050	0	-150	7,200	7,150	7,350	50	-150	6,500	6,500	6,750	0	-250
Food & kindred prods.	3,050	2,950	2,900	100	150										
Textile mill prods.	4,250	4,300	4,200	-50	50										
Apparel	2,700	2,700	2,900	0	-200	1,800	1,750	1,900	50	-100					
Paper & allied prods.	5,650	5,600	5,600	50	50										
Print., pub. & allied	7,250	7,150	6,950	100	300										
Leather & lea. prods.	8,350	8,600	9,200	-250	-850										
Other nondurables	10,650	10,600	10,300	50	350	5,400	5,400	5,450	0	-50					
Nonmanufacturing	316,950	320,600	309,500	-3,650	7,450	65,800	66,000	62,950	-200	2,850	40,850	40,300	39,300	550	1,550
Construction (inc. min.)	23,050	22,950	27,050	100	-4,000	4,550	4,500	3,750	50	800	3,450	3,450	3,250	0	200
Trans., comm. & util.	16,000	15,550	15,850	450	150	5,200	5,250	5,150	-50	50	2,050	1,950	2,000	100	50
Trade	101,950	103,050	97,500	-1,100	4,450	22,050	22,200	20,850	-150	1,200	14,500	14,600	14,200	-100	300
Fin., ins. & real estate	23,350	23,500	21,850	-150	1,500	6,500	6,550	6,300	-50	200	2,600	2,550	2,300	50	300
Service industry & other	93,400	99,700	88,250	-6,300	5,150	19,200	19,150	18,550	50	650	12,750	12,900	12,250	-150	500
Government	59,200	55,850	59,000	3,350	200	8,300	8,350	8,350	-50	-50	5,500	4,850	5,300	650	200
Federal	11,800	11,900	11,600	-100	200	2,050	2,100	2,000	-50	50	700	700	700	0	0
State	15,050	13,800	14,950	1,250	100	900	850	900	50	0	250	250	250	0	0
Local	32,350	30,150	32,450	2,200	-100	5,350	5,400	5,450	-50	-100	4,550	3,900	4,350	650	200

* By place of residence
** By place of establishment
Benchmark March 1983

Labor Disputes:

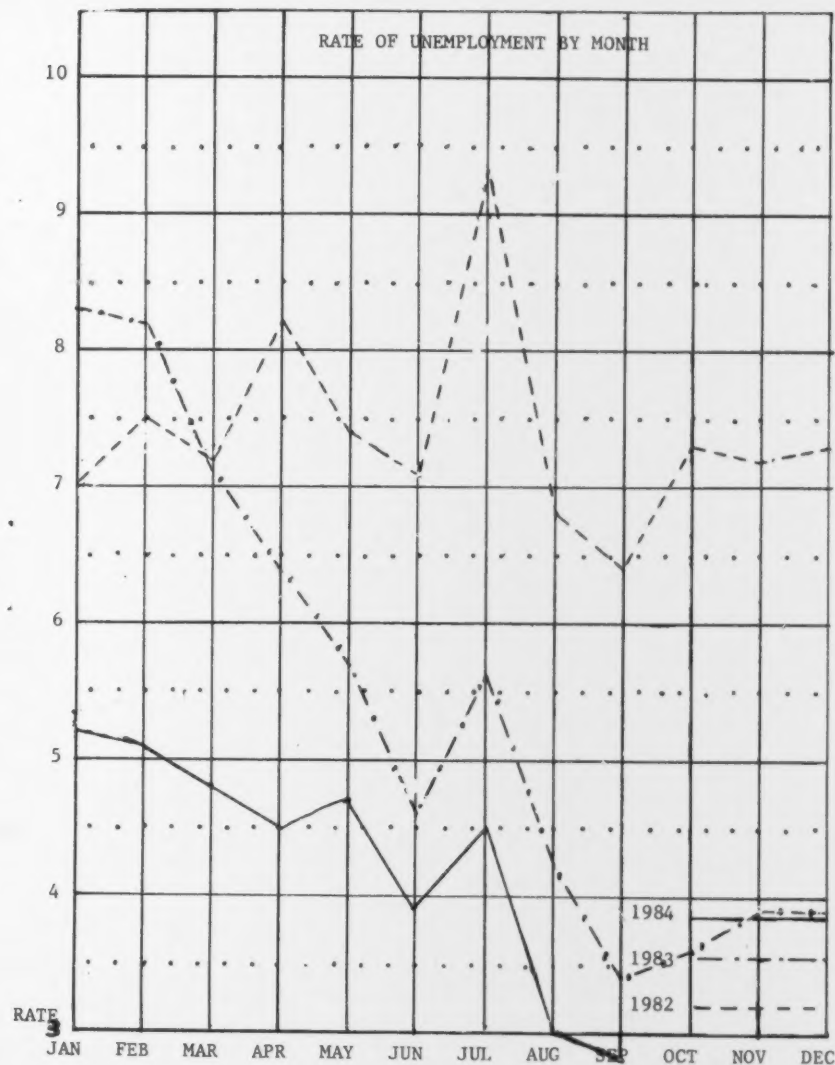
Total Unemployment and Labor Force by Labor Market Area (LMA) and County

Area	Unemployment*						Civilian Labor Force				
	September 1984 Number Percent		August 1984 Number Percent		September 1983 Number Percent		Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	Numerical Change From Previous Month Year	
United States**	8,051	7.1	8,382	7.3	9,830	8.8					
New Hampshire	14,880	2.8	16,160	3.0	17,590	3.4	-331	-1,779	113,843	115,076	112,197
							-1,280	-2,710	528,840	536,440	512,610
										-1,233	1,646
										-7,600	16,230
<u>Labor Market Area</u>											
Berlin	640	3.0	650	3.0	890	4.3	-10	-250	21,210	21,710	20,580
Claremont	670	1.7	710	1.8	1,180	3.1	-40	-510	39,400	39,900	37,840
Concord	990	2.1	1,030	2.2	1,250	2.8	-40	-260	47,340	47,520	44,860
Dover	2,150	4.6	2,280	4.9	1,880	4.2	-130	270	47,150	46,410	45,180
Keene	770	1.9	790	1.9	1,350	3.4	-20	-580	40,670	40,780	39,540
Laconia	1,030	2.1	1,010	2.0	1,200	2.6	20	-170	48,270	51,260	46,590
Littleton	430	2.7	330	2.1	580	3.6	100	-150	16,200	16,550	15,900
Manchester	2,480	2.7	2,470	2.7	3,040	3.5	10	-560	91,830	92,270	87,300
Nashua	1,900	2.0	1,900	2.0	2,620	2.9	0	-720	94,100	94,120	88,890
Portsmouth	2,630	4.7	2,950	5.1	1,950	3.3	-320	680	55,720	58,140	58,940
N.H. - Lawrence- Haverhill SMSA***	1,190	4.4	2,040	7.3	1,650	6.1	-850	-460	26,950	27,780	26,990
										-830	-40
<u>County</u>											
Belknap	550	2.2	540	2.1	740	3.1	10	-190	24,500	25,950	23,740
Carroll	300	2.0	310	2.0	340	2.4	-10	-40	14,970	15,560	14,400
Cheshire	710	1.9	740	2.0	1,280	3.6	-30	-570	36,440	36,550	35,480
Coos	610	3.3	600	3.1	860	4.7	10	-250	18,740	19,170	18,270
Grafton	820	2.2	720	1.9	990	2.7	100	-170	37,540	38,560	36,180
Hillsborough	3,950	2.4	3,920	2.4	4,980	3.2	30	-1,030	166,360	166,680	157,500
Merrimack	1,120	2.1	1,150	2.1	1,430	2.8	-30	-310	54,620	55,340	51,960
Rockingham	4,560	4.0	5,750	4.9	4,510	3.9	-1,190	50	113,070	116,400	114,870
Strafford	1,910	4.5	2,030	4.9	1,670	4.1	-120	240	42,330	41,670	40,570
Sullivan	350	1.7	400	1.9	790	4.0	-50	-440	20,270	20,560	19,640
										-290	630

* Based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics "43 Step Method" Handbook adjusted to the Current Population Survey estimates.

** In thousands, not seasonally adjusted.

*** New Hampshire portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes Salem and six small towns.



AREA DEFINITIONS

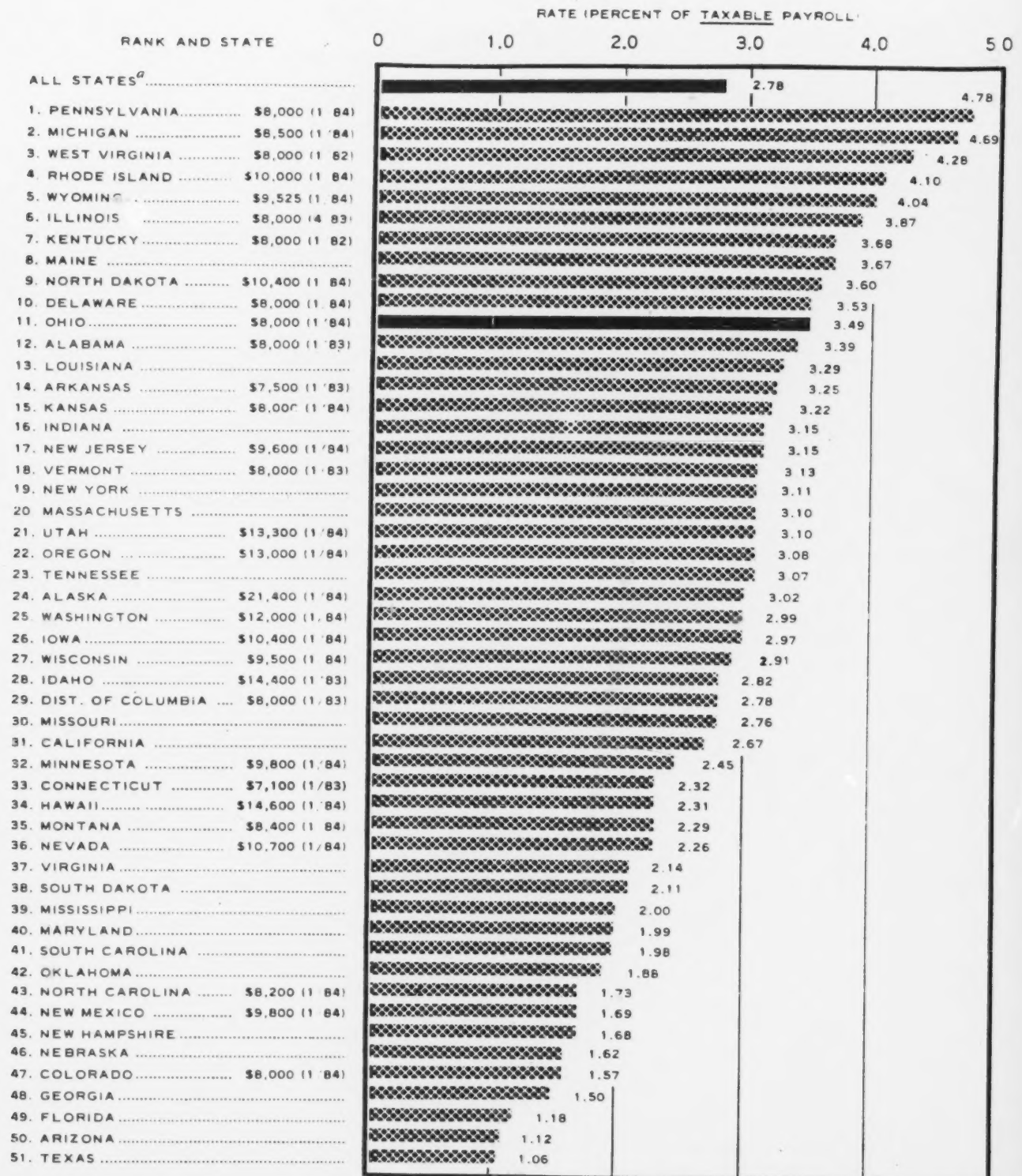
Manchester Labor Market Area includes the city of Manchester and towns of Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Chester, Derry, Goffstown, Hooksett, Londonderry, New Boston, Raymond and Weare.

Nashua Labor Market Area is located in the southern section of Hillsborough County and includes the City of Nashua and the towns of Amherst, Brookline, Greenville, Hollis, Litchfield, Lyndeboro, Mason, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, New Ipswich, Pelham, Temple and Wilton.

U. S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Item	1984	1983	1982	1981
<u>Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers</u>				
Current month - September	312.1			
Percent change from year ago	3.8			
Year average		297.4	288.6	272.3
Percent increase each year		3.0	6.0	10.2
<u>All Urban Consumers</u>				
Current month - September	314.5			
Percent change from year ago	4.2			
Year average		298.4	289.1	272.4
Percent increase each year		3.2	6.1	10.4

AVERAGE CONTRIBUTION RATE OF EMPLOYERS COVERED UNDER STATE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAWS, 1983



^aTaxable wage base for 1984 is \$7,000, except as shown.

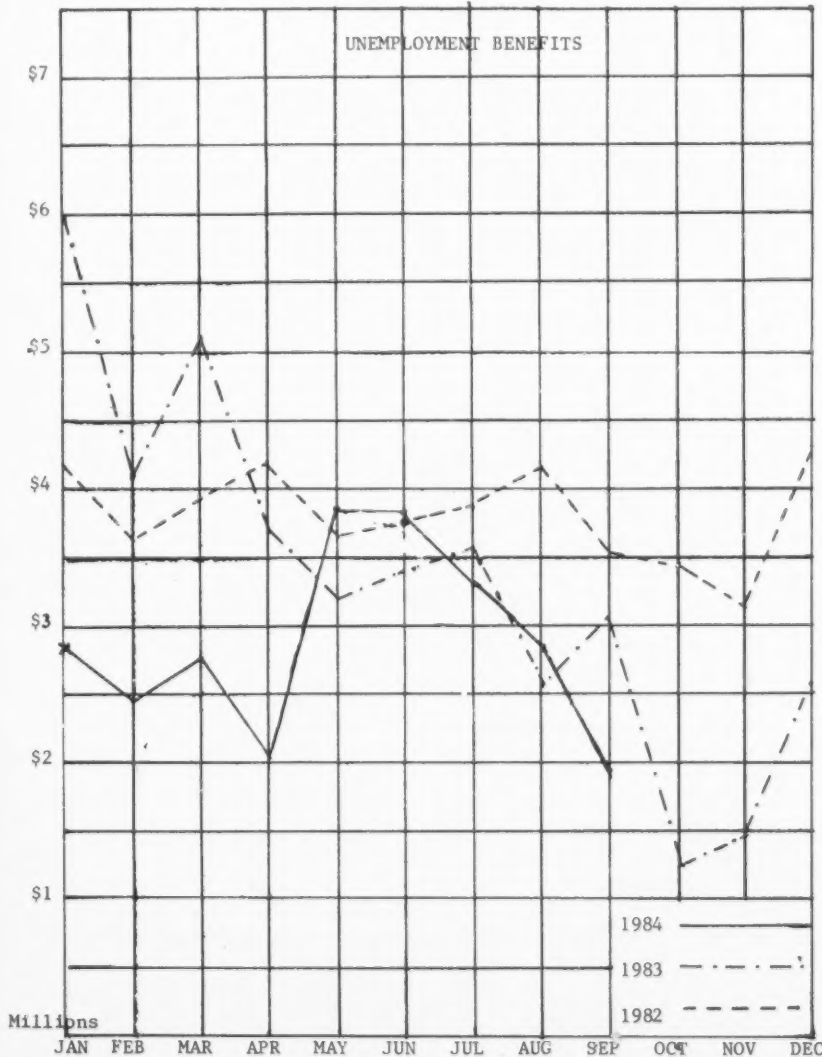
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, based on ES-202
tabulations of state employment security agencies.

Labor Market Information Division
Ohio Bureau of Employment Services
Columbus 10-5-84 No. A-550

Weekly Claims Filed During September 1984
Classified by Local Office

Area	Unemployment Compensation		U.C. State Workers (Only)		UC Local Government		Servicemen UCX (Only)		U.C. Federal Employees No UI	
	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.	Int.	Cont.	Init.	Cont.
All Offices	2,438	18,007	12	30	7	45	41	46	10	68
Berlin	148	664	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	1
Claremont	136	513	0	0	0	2	1	6	0	0
Concord	164	892	4	2	1	0	4	0	0	3
Dover	598	3,549	2	15	2	19	9	24	2	28
Keene	111	500	0	1	0	16	2	1	2	2
Laconia	173	614	3	5	0	1	2	1	2	1
Littleton	73	195	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Manchester	387	2,069	1	4	1	0	8	6	0	22
Nashua	119	785	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Portsmouth	237	4,623	1	0	0	5	11	5	2	5
Salem	43	406	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Not included above: Liable Interstate	249	3,197	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	5

The average payment for a week of total unemployment was \$118.41



Unemployment Compensation
Fund Balance End Of Month

\$87,107,668.56

Net contributions received
during month:

\$ 89,272.23

Net benefits paid during
month:

\$ 1,965,558.81

Interest Received:

0

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

New Hampshire

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings			Sample Percent of Production Workers:
	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	
All manufacturing	\$323.05	\$318.68	\$304.03	41.1	40.7	40.7	\$7.86	\$7.83	\$7.47	53
Durable goods	339.46	333.32	318.57	41.6	41.1	41.0	8.16	8.11	7.77	Total Production Workers:
Lumber & wood prods.	262.86	261.62	235.20	41.2	41.2	39.2	6.38	6.35	6.00	87,825
Furniture & fixtures	277.38	271.67	269.47	39.4	38.7	40.1	7.04	7.02	6.72	Firms Reporting:
Stone & clay prods.	312.64	312.42	315.66	41.3	41.6	43.3	7.57	7.51	7.29	350
Primary metal prods.	363.00	352.34	352.98	44.0	42.4	44.4	8.25	8.31	7.95	
Fab. metal prods.	319.54	306.94	302.73	42.1	41.2	41.3	7.59	7.45	7.33	
Mach. (exc. elec.)	386.75	377.54	358.13	43.7	43.0	43.2	8.85	8.78	8.29	
Electrical prods.	336.31	335.51	320.72	39.8	39.8	39.4	8.45	8.43	8.14	
Miscellaneous prods.	239.84	231.01	249.23	42.6	41.4	41.4	5.63	5.58	6.02	
Other durables	353.14	341.25	319.20	41.4	40.1	39.8	8.53	8.51	8.02	
Nondurable goods	\$296.94	\$294.33	\$281.10	40.4	40.1	40.1	\$7.35	\$7.34	\$7.01	
Food & kindred prods.	376.97	403.38	366.20	41.7	41.5	41.1	9.04	9.72	8.91	
Textile mill prods.	278.80	270.95	264.96	41.0	40.2	41.4	6.80	6.74	6.40	
Apparel	204.61	210.56	194.46	37.0	37.6	36.9	5.53	5.60	5.27	
Paper & allied prods.	442.70	442.91	421.67	47.5	48.3	47.7	9.32	9.17	8.84	
Print., pub. & allied	293.97	287.68	287.96	41.0	39.3	39.5	7.17	7.32	7.29	
Leather & lea. prods.	193.85	189.74	190.41	35.7	35.8	36.2	5.43	5.30	5.26	
Footwear	186.02	181.76	179.42	35.5	35.5	35.6	5.24	5.12	5.04	
Other nondurables	325.99	326.36	305.37	40.8	41.0	40.5	7.99	7.96	7.54	

Manchester Labor Market Area

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings			Sample Percent of Production Workers:
	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	
All manufacturing	\$313.34	\$299.30	\$285.76	40.8	39.8	39.8	\$7.68	\$7.52	\$7.18	55
Durable goods	340.23	315.57	305.47	41.9	40.2	40.3	8.12	7.85	7.58	Total Production Workers:
Mach. & elec. prods.	346.41	324.80	316.88	42.4	40.6	41.1	8.17	8.00	7.71	12,856
Other durables	331.66	300.60	284.45	41.2	39.5	38.7	8.05	7.61	7.35	Firms Reporting:
Nondurable goods	278.16	278.64	265.16	39.4	39.3	39.4	7.06	7.09	6.73	46
Textiles & apparel	268.67	269.00	251.43	40.1	39.5	40.1	6.70	6.81	6.27	
Other nondurables	281.85	281.46	269.01	39.2	39.2	39.1	7.19	7.18	6.88	

Nashua Labor Market Area

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings			Sample Percent of Production Workers:
	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	Sept. 1984	Aug. 1984	Sept. 1983	
All manufacturing	\$379.14	\$381.00	\$363.74	40.9	41.1	41.1	\$9.27	\$9.27	\$8.85	58
Durable goods	384.29	385.43	373.50	41.1	41.4	41.5	9.35	9.31	9.00	Total Production Workers:
Mach. & elec. prods.	412.90	412.08	409.94	40.8	40.8	41.2	10.12	10.10	9.95	21,064
Other durables	311.08	316.41	301.31	41.7	42.7	42.2	7.46	7.41	7.14	Firms Reporting:
Nondurable goods	359.30	366.11	330.74	40.1	40.1	39.8	8.96	9.13	8.31	71

Number of Active Applicants and Female Applicants by Major Occupational Category
Period Ending September 30, 1984

	NEW HAMPSHIRE		MANCHESTER		NASHUA	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
TOTAL	9,482	4,062	1,644	763	782	339
Prof., Tech. (00-16)	1,065	405	96	33	117	19
Managerial (18,19)	500	180	127	73	77	47
Clerical (20-24)	1,743	1,417	256	216	159	117
Sales (25-29)	486	240	104	51	29	15
Services (3)	1,343	749	240	138	71	35
Farm (4)	100	20	7	1	7	2
Processing (5)	175	49	32	12	17	1
Machine Trade (6)	881	260	118	51	58	14
Benchwork (7)	782	512	162	117	105	63
Structural (8)	1,587	47	300	11	70	4
Miscellaneous (9)	751	149	173	41	71	22
Unclassified	69	34	29	19	1	0

Employment Service Activity

ITEM	September 1984	August 1984	October 1, 1983 to September 30, 1984
Total applicants for employment	2,551 ⁹⁵	3,586	55,624
Total nonagricultural job openings received	2,660	3,937	29,816
Job openings unfilled end of month	3,543	3,923	xxx
Placements - nonagricultural & agricultural	1,170	1,581	12,723

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
32 SOUTH MAIN STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300



POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL

Third Class Mail

LAB-449

CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE, INC.
4520 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20014